

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 EB-07 RSC-01 /018 W

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R 030655Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5661

UNCLAS DACCA 0627

PASS COMMERCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : BEXP, EING, BG

SUBJECT : REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: COAL

1. DEPUTY SECRETARY, BDG MIN COMMERCE AND FOREIGN TRADE URGENTLY SEEKS PRICE INFORMATION AND SPECIFICATIONS ON US-PRODUCED NON-COKING, HIGH VOLATILE COAL. INQUIRY GROWS OUT OF CURRENT (JANUARY 31 - FEBRUARY 3) BDG TRADE DISCUSSIONS IN DACCA WITH INDIA. BDG IS NOW RPT NOW ARRANGING TO IMPORT COAL FROM INDIA AGAINST FREELY CONVERTIBLE FOREIGN EXCHANGE. MAIN USES OF IMPORTED COAL ARE FOR BRICK-BURNING AND RAILWAYS. BDG HAS ALSO INSTRUCTED ITS EMBASSY, WASHINGTON TO OBTAIN THIS INFORMATION.

2. IN ADDITION TO CURRENT F.O.B. PRICE PER TON, BDG NEEDS SPECIFICATIONS AS FOLLOWS:

- A. ASH CONTENT
- B. VOLATILE MATTER
- C. B. TH. U. PER LB.
- D. MOISTURE

3. BDG IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN OBTAINING ABOVE INFORMATION ON COAL FROM ITMANN, RUSSELL FORK, MASCO AND/OR KEYSTONE COMPANIES, WHICH FOREIGN TRADE OFFICIALS HERE UNDERSTAND HAVE RECENTLY SOLD SUCH COAL TO JAPAN.

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4. WHILE WE DO NOT RPT NOT EXPECT THIS INQUIRY TO

LEAD TO EXPORT SALE OF US COAL (TRANSPORTATION COSTS
WOULD PROBABLY BE PROHIBITIVE), WE BELIEVE THAT A
COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE RE SUCH INQUIRIES IS APPROPRIATE
AND COULD HELP US DEVELOP EXPORT SALES IN OTHER
COMMODITIES IN FUTURE. ACCORDINGLY, THIS IS TO
ENCOURAGE WASHINGTON AGENCIES TO RESPOND PROMPTLY TO
ANY INQUIRY FROM THE BANGLADESH EMBASSY AND ALSO TO
FORWARD THE INFORMATION TO THIS POST FOR TRANSMITTAL
TO THE BDG.
BOSTER

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